

**MINUTES OF THE  
HIGHER EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Friday , January 26, 2018 • 8:00 a.m. • 210 Senate Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Evan J. Vickers, Senate Chair  
Rep. Keith Grover, House Chair  
Rep. Derrin R. Owens, House Vice Chair  
Sen. Jim Dabakis  
Sen. Deidre M. Henderson  
Sen. Don L. Ipson  
Sen. Ann Millner  
Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson  
Rep. Kim F. Coleman  
Rep. Karen Kwan  
Rep. Kelly B. Miles

Rep. Val K. Potter  
Rep. Jon E. Stanard  
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley  
Rep. Mike Winder

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Howard A. Stephenson  
Rep. Brad M. Daw

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Spencer C. Pratt, Fiscal Manager  
Mr. Sean C. Faherty, Fiscal Analyst  
Ms. Lorna Wells, Committee Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1 . Call to Order**

House Vice Chair Owens called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

Rep. Daw was excused from the meeting.

**2 . Utah System of Higher Education**

Base Budget

[3b-HED - Performance Measures - Final - 2018 GS](#)

Mr. Spencer Pratt, Fiscal Manager, Office of Legislative Fiscal Analyst, discussed the Base Budget.

Sen. Millner discussed the performance metrics that were discussed during the interim. She requested the LFA's office work the Commissioner's office to look at these metrics before the next meeting.

Chair Owens acknowledged a group of students in the audience from Utah State University.

State Board of Regents/Commissioner's Office

Dr. David Buhler, Commissioner, Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) discussed the Board of Regents Strategic Plan for 2025. He also discussed the Board of Regents' FY 19 Operating Budget Request.

Dr. Kimberly Henrie, USHE Associate Commissioner spoke about the need for IT Infrastructure within the USHE system.

Comm. Buhler continued his presentation regarding Statewide Priorities including the Library Consortium.

Rep. Kwan asked some clarifying questions about the budget request for the Utah Academic Library Consortium. Comm. Buhler answered these questions.

Rep. Wheatley asked about the waiting lists for students to enroll in nursing programs. Comm. Buhler answered this question.

Rep. Coleman asked about some technical administrative issues that prevented students from receiving the Regents' Scholarships two years ago. Comm. Buhler discussed improvements that have been made to the system.

Sen. Vickers discussed his perspective on this issue.

Sen. Vickers asked if the Board of Regents has looked for other funding models for Higher Education. Comm. Buhler answered this question.

Sen. Stevenson and Sen. Vickers clarified the funding for Brigham Young University.

Sen. Vickers asked questions about funding for the Nursing Consortium. Comm. Buhler answered this question.

Sen. Dabakis asked about the challenge of having a vision as well as planning for the future. He asked if underprivileged students are have equal access to higher education.

Comm. Buhler responded to Sen. Dabakis' concerns.

Chair Owens mentioned the great work of the Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority (UHEAA).

Sen. Vickers discussed some recent experiences with scholarship applicants who had taken courses at local high schools as well as Southwest Technical College.

Rep. Kwan mentioned that students maybe reluctant to fill out federal forms.

Chair Owens acknowledged a group of students in the audience from Southern Utah University.

### **3 . Approval of Minutes (January 24, 2018)**

**MOTION:** Sen. Vickers moved to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2018 meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 7 .

Yeas-10

Rep. K. Coleman

Sen. J. Dabakis

Sen. D. Ipson

Rep. K. Kwan

Rep. K. Miles

Nays-0

Absent-7

Rep. B. Daw

Rep. K. Grover

Sen. D. Henderson

Sen. A. Millner

Rep. V. Potter

Rep. D. Owens  
Rep. J. Stanard  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Rep. M. Winder

Sen. H. Stephenson  
Rep. M. Wheatley

#### Southern Utah University

President Scott Wyatt, Southern Utah University (SUU), introduced Executive Director of Development and Government Relations, Donna Law. Pres. Wyatt gave a presentation about Southern Utah University.

Chair Owens asked about the barriers that have been overcome at SUU. Pres. Wyatt answered this question and continued with his presentation.

Rep. Stanard discussed some of the innovative items that were discussed. He asked questions about the cost per degree at SUU.

Assoc. Comm. Henrie answered these questions and discussed how the data is calculated.

Pres. Wyatt also discussed the cost per degrees at SUU.

Rep. Winder discussed the positive experiences he has had with the student support network at SUU.

Sen. Stevenson mentioned that SUU has been doing a great job and great service to the community.

#### Salt Lake Community College

Dr. Deneece Huftalin, President, Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) recognized audience members from SLCC.

Pres. Huftalin gave an overview about SLCC with the assistance of Vice President of Government and Community Relations, Tim Sheehan.

Rep. Coleman expressed concern about homework access fees. Pres. Huftalin discussed some of the solutions that are being implemented to address this problem.

Pres. Huftalin continued her presentation.

Rep. Kwan will discuss Online Educational Resources (OER) with Rep. Coleman off line.

Rep. Coleman stated that the costs should be listed in the requirements of the course. Pres. Huftalin responded to this question.

Sen. Vickers asked about the needed resources to provide more high-demand programs. Pres. Huftalin answered this question.

Rep. Wheatley asked about first generation students. Pres. Huftalin responded.

Rep. Kwan asked about the teacher education. Pres. Huftalin answered her question.

Sen. Dabakis mentioned the positive experience of a student attending SLCC utilizing the SLCC "Promise" program.

Rep. Grover appreciated the integrity and transparency of the report from SLCC. He said it was very helpful to understand some of the challenges and problems at SLCC.

Rep. Kwan commented about the fees for OER and the importance of the Library Consortium.

#### **4 . Subcommittee discussion:**

Dream Weber program

Dr. Brad Mortensen, Vice President for University Advancement, Weber State University discussed the Dream Weber program.

Rep. Miles asked a question about the minimum income level for this program. Dr. Mortensen answered that question.

Rep. Kwan commented on the success of both of these programs.

2+2 program

Rep. Kwan explained the 2+2 concept. She wanted to know how the different missions impact the budget requests, faculty recruitment, etc.

Comm. Buhler discussed how the difference in missions of the USHE institutions impact budgets, transferability, etc.

Dr. David Woolstenhulme, Commissioner, Utah System of Technical Colleges discussed the impact of differing missions for the USTC campuses.

Rep. Coleman asked why the costs for a specific course could be so different from one institution to another. Comm. Buhler discussed the factors involved.

Dr. Spencer Jenkins, Assistant Commissioner, gave additional information about this issue.

Sen. Stevenson expressed his concern about getting into institution budgets at that level.

Rep. Kwan mentioned how the expertise of certain faculty can greatly impact the quality of the course.

Chair Owens welcomed questions from committee members and wanted the public to know that committee members often disagree on certain topics. He expressed praise to the USHE and USTC systems.

Comm. Buhler said his office would try to answer any questions from Legislators.

## **5. Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Rep. Grover moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 6 .

Yeas-11

Nays-0

Absent-6

Sen. J. Dabakis

Rep. K. Coleman

Rep. K. Grover

Rep. B. Daw

Sen. D. Ipson

Sen. D. Henderson

Rep. K. Kwan

Rep. V. Potter

Rep. K. Miles

Rep. J. Stanard

Sen. A. Millner

Sen. H. Stephenson

Rep. D. Owens

Sen. J. Stevenson

Sen. E. Vickers

Rep. M. Wheatley

Rep. M. Winder

Chair Owens adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m.